

shopping list

"plates
bread
pita
raw cheddar
apple juice
4 avos
tomatoes
cukes
mung
napkins
alfalfa s.
a. tuna
split peas
fruit
bananas
carrots"

what's "mung"?

I like lists

especially when they are written in pencil
upon a small and unevenly-torn
piece of paper.

"mung."

it's not in the dictionary.

when she comes in I
ask her.

"look, what's this 'mung'?"

"what 'mung'?"

"it's on your shopping list...."

"oh, that? that's mung bean sprouts."

"oh?"

"what did you think it was?"

"I don't know. that's why I asked."

"bean sprouts," she said and walked into the
bathroom....

love

I awakened about 10:30 a.m.

Sunday morning

and I sat straight up in bed

and I said,

"o, Jesus Christ!"

and she said,

"what's the matter, Hank?"
and I said, "it's my car. do you
remember where we parked last night?"
and she said,
"no, I don't."
and I said,
"well, there's something strange about it."
and I got dressed and went out on the street
and I didn't know where the car was
and I walked up this street and down that
street and I couldn't see it.
I get love affairs going with my cars
and the older they are and the longer I have them
the more I care.
this had been an ancient love.
then three blocks to the west I saw it:
parked dead in the middle of a very narrow
street. nobody could enter the street or leave it.
my car sat there calmly like a crazy tank.
I walked in, got in, put the key in, and it
started.

there was no ticket.
I drove it around to my street and parked it
properly.

I walked back up the stairway and opened the
door.
"well, is your car all right?" she asked.
"yeah, I found it," I said, "it was...."
"you worry too much about that god damned car,"
she said, "did you bring any 7-Up, any beer?"

I undressed and got into bed
turned my fat ass against her fat
belly.

we're all so wanted....

I haven't seen her for 3 or 4 days
and she comes in and tells me
about the man on the freeway --
he kept his car just even with hers
and when she speeded up
he speeded up
and when she slowed down
he slowed down.
"I took a quick off-ramp," she said,